

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1-16 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. Applicants are further required to make an election of species in claims 3, 5 and 8. Applicants note that a telephone conference was conducted with the Examiner on September 22, 2008 to obtain clarification of the restriction requirement.

Applicants wish to make a provisional election of Group I, i.e. claims 1-12, without traverse.

Regarding the election of species from claim 3, Applicants elect carboxymethyl cellulose.

Regarding the election of species from claim 5, Applicants elect the hydrophilic polymer, polyethylene glycol, recited in claim 6.

Regarding the election of species from claim 8, Applicants elect the hydrophobic polymer, polylactic acid, recited in claim 9.

In addition, Applicants retain the right to file divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter should the restriction requirement become final. Authorization is hereby granted to charge any fees which may be required by this paper, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-2570.

Respectfully submitted,



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